DETERMINING THE CREDIBILITY AND RELIABILITY OF SOURCES

Name/title of the news story: _____

Briefly describe this story: _____

_____

- – Who made this story?
- – Where was the story published?
- – How was this story made?
- – Why was this story made?
- – When was this story made?
- – What is this story missing?
- – Where do I go from here?

Who made this? *Who are the authors? (Professional journalists? Citizen journalists? Average Joes? Qualified experts? Consider both those named and those unnamed.)*

How was this made? *What tools/techniques were used? Did the reporter or journalist conduct interviews or use research from sources?*

Why was this made? *Why did the reporter or journalist decide to cover this story? What is the reason for its existence? (To inform? To get attention? To make money? To change my mind? To reinforce my beliefs?)*

When was this made? *Is it current? Outdated? Has enough time passed to verify the facts?*

What is this missing? *Is this the whole story? What perspectives aren't represented? What questions aren't answered?*

Were do I go from here? *Where can I find verification of these facts? Where can I find other perspectives on this topic? Check sites like FactCheck.org, Snopes.com, the Washington Post Fact Checker and PolitiFact.com to verify the information in the source.*

After answering the questions about the story, do you think this news story is credible and reliable? Why or why not?